

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20
TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 /092 W
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P 131530Z JUN 78
FM AMCONSUL MAZATLAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1709
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

UNCLAS MAZATLAN 0229

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, EGEN, CGEN, SNAR
SUBJ: LAND INVASIONS QUELLED BY FORCE IN NORTHERN SINALOA

1. FESTERING LAND INVASIONS IN NORTHERN SINALOA, PARALYZING 13,000 HECTARES AT SANTA ROSA, CERRO PRIETO, AND SECCION BAROBAMPO (NEAR LOS MOCHIS) CLIMAXED ON JUNE 10, WHEN THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF THE ARMY AND POLICE WERE USED TO OUST THE SQUATTERS FROM LAND WHICH THEY HAD BEEN ILLEGALLY OCCUPYING FOR THE PAST TWO WEEKS. PRESS REPORTS PREDICTED THAT LOSSES FROM THE FAILURE TO PLANT THE SOYBEAN CROP WOULD BE HEAVY.
2. SEIZED BY POLICE WERE TRUCKLOADS OF XOOD INTENDED TO SUSTAIN THE SQUATTERS FOR A LONG SEIGE. A LARGE CARGO OF MOLOTOV COCKTAILS, REPORTEDLY MANUFACTURED BY UNIVERSITY OF SINALOA STUDENTS, WAS ALSO CONFISCATED.
3. AMONG THE PARTING JIBES SHOUTED BY THE OUSTED SQUATTERS AT THE AUTHORITIES WAS QUOTE WE'LL SEE YOU IN THE NEXT INVASION UNQUOTE.
4. PRIOR TO DECIDING TO USE FORCE TO DISLODGE THE SQUATTERS, GOVERNOR CALDERON HAD ATTEMPTED TO MEDIATE WITH THE GROUP.

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THEIR RESPONSE WAS TO TURN THEIR BACKS ON HIM.

5. THE NEW SECRETARY OF AGRARIAN REFORM WILL HAVE TO BRING ALL HIS TACT AND EXPERIENCE INTO PLAY TO QUELL WHAT LOOMS AHEAD. IN ANY EVENT, HE CANNOT EXPECT MUCH HELP FROM GOVERNOR CALDERON WHO SEEMS TO BE LOSING HIS CLOUT WITH THE CAMPESINOS.

MATTHEWS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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